

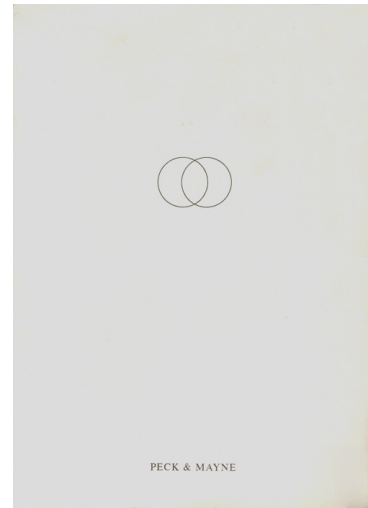
## A STUDY OF TWO PHOTOGRAPHS

Peck & Mayne  
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Artist Edition of 20

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I remember the first time I saw this archive of images. An  
unknown gaze capturing volatile seas tucked clumsily between folds of  
cardboard.

23 - A7 - 40.  
Velox.

Quiet contemplation draws me to a cliff top overlooking a pebbly bay. I  
stand tall over everything around me whilst my hair lashes mercilessly in  
the wind. Salty air dries my skin whilst the cool grass soothes my  
inexplicably bare feet.  
West Bay near Bridport.

I am alone here. At once I am behind the camera and in front of the  
photograph, cupped carefully now in my hands. Sheltered.  
The elements and I converge. We touch, yet are protected from the other,  
our power petrified in time. I wonder what sound the waves might make as  
they crash against the rocks.  
For now, we stare in silence, wondering at the majesty of the wave, longing  
only for the crash witnessed by that very first gaze.